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THE WHITE HOUSE

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WASHINGTON

May 3, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR

Director, Intelligence Community Staff

SUBJECT:

Intelligence Priority on the POW/MIA

Issue (S)

We have raised our intelligence priorities on POW/MIAs on an institutional basis twice in this Administration. The most recent was in late 1982, announced to the National League of Families in January 1983 by the President. (U)

We have initiated diplomatic negotiations with both Laos and Vietnam on the POW/MIA issue and the outcome is obviously uncertain. The collection priority for intelligence information throughout the community must be in consonance with the President's personal and stated priority. We would appreciate a status report on actions taken by the entire community in response to the raised priority, but specifically focused on HUMINT activities. (S)

The President is scheduled to speak publicly on the POW/MIA issue at the end of May and again on July 20, 1984. We wish him to speak with confidence as he did in January 1983 on this subject. An interim report by May 25 would be appreciated. (U)

J. M. Poindexter

Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

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